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Programme 13
International drug control

Contents

		Page
Overall orientation		2
Subprogramme 1.	Coordination and promotion of international drug control	2
Subprogramme 2.	International drug control monitoring and policy-making	3
Subprogramme 3.	Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse	4
Subprogramme 4.	Supply reduction: elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking	5
Legislative mandates		7

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Overall orientation

13.1 The overall objective of the programme is the development and maintenance of accepted international norms and standards for drug control. The programme's primary focus is on the promotion of harmonized and concerted international action against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking. The mandate of the programme is derived from the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control and the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. General Assembly resolutions S-17/2, S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 reinforce and update those mandates. In addition, Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 42/4 and 42/11 on the follow-up to the decisions and resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session also guide the work of the programme.

13.2 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the implementation of the programme is vested in the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP). The strategies for the attainment of the above objective are based on the implementation of the activities set out under four complementary subprogrammes, which focus on (a) the coordination and promotion of international drug control action by Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations (b) facilitating the work of policy-making bodies dealing with international drug control; and the prevention of drug abuse and illicit trafficking through both (c) demand reduction and (d) supply reduction. In pursuance of the objective, efforts would be directed towards providing Governments with better information on trends in the international drug problem and techniques and countermeasures to combat it. Capacity-building, the establishment of information networks on drug abuse, the development of knowledge and of effective methodologies in tackling drug abuse would also constitute part of the main strategy.

13.3 As the focal point for the coordination of action against drug abuse and illicit trafficking within the United Nations system, UNDCP would facilitate and promote implementation of all efforts at international drug control at the subregional, regional and global levels. In that regard, organizations of the United Nations system and multilateral and bilateral organizations would be encouraged to incorporate into their work issues relating to drug control.

13.4 UNDCP reports to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council. The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), established by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, reports to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Subprogramme 1
Coordination and promotion of international drug control

Objective

13.5 The subprogramme aims to promote and ensure the unity of purpose and cohesion of action in drug control by organizations of the United Nations system. It focuses on mainstreaming, within the inter-agency machinery as well as by the organizations of the system, of issues relating to the causes of drug abuse, production and trafficking in order to facilitate implementation of all the relevant international instruments on drug abuse and drug trafficking.

Strategy

13.6 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is shared among the offices under the direct supervision of the Executive Director. The subprogramme seeks to promote and facilitate implementation of the international drug control strategy, embodied in the Global Programme of Action, other international instruments, including decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly, and the cooperation framework developed by the Subcommittee on Drug Control of the Administrative Committee on Coordination. The mainstreaming of drug-related issues in the common country assessment, including in the exercises within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, will be promoted. A comprehensive assessment of the global drug problem will be made with the purpose of expanding knowledge, thereby enhancing the capacity of UNDCP to analyse its impact, forecast the trends and develop countermeasures for application by Governments.

13.7 Priority will be given to increasing awareness among decision and opinion makers and civil society in general of the magnitude of the challenges posed by the drug abuse problem. To that end, information on the international drug problem will be disseminated through the publication of the annual world drug report as well as of information on global illicit drug trends. Integrated databases on drug supply and demand will be maintained and updated. Needs assessments for multilateral cooperation in drug control at the regional and subregional levels will be conducted in order to establish in selected regions cooperation arrangements, including memoranda of understanding, defining a common understanding of and approach to drug control by the countries concerned.

Expected accomplishments

13.8 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improved coordination of drug control related activities throughout the United Nations system with UNDCP providing leadership;

(b) Coordinated programming and implementation of activities relating to drug control by Governments, regional and subregional institutions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(c) Improved quality of projects implemented by non-governmental organizations;

(d) Better understanding of the magnitude of and trends in the global drug problem;

(e) Timely dissemination of information on various aspects of the drug problem as well as on control measures.

Indicators of achievement

13.9 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The number of programmes and projects on drug control within the United Nations system;

(b) The number of agencies implementing the cooperation framework and the number of drug control strategies implemented at the regional, subregional and international levels;

(c) An assessment of the quality of projects implemented by non-governmental organizations;

(d) The number and quality of information materials made available to Governments and the public at large.

Subprogramme 2
International drug control monitoring and policy-making

Objective

13.10 The objective of the subprogramme is to enable the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, its subsidiary bodies and INCB to carry out their functions effectively through the provision of high-quality support.

Strategy

13.11 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the activities under this subprogramme is vested in the Division for Treaty Affairs and Support to Drug Control Organs of UNDCP. In this connection, substantive and technical services will be provided to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and INCB in order to enable them to discharge their responsibilities under the relevant international instruments and resolutions of the General Assembly. Reliable data and other information on the nature, patterns and trends in the licit and illicit supply of and demand for narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors will be made available to those bodies. Issues relating to treaty compliance would be identified and analysed for use by the Board. Its efforts at establishing, maintaining and strengthening national and international controls over licit supplies of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in a manner that ensures their adequate availability for medical, scientific and other licit purposes will be strengthened. Furthermore, a special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances will be maintained and methods to detect and analyse them developed in order to enable INCB to assist Governments in preventing the diversion of precursors to illicit channels.

13.12 Multilateral, regional and subregional judicial cooperation will be promoted and assistance made available with a view to enabling Governments to deal effectively with criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking. The subprogramme will also facilitate the adoption and implementation by Governments of

national drug control legislation, including mechanisms for preventing illicit trafficking of precursors and drugs, in particular heroin, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants, and money-laundering. Efforts in this area will focus on States traversed by new and existing drug, precursor or money-laundering routes and potential substitute States with weak drug control laws or enforcement capability.

Expected accomplishments

13.13 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) The provision of effective policy guidance by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as a result of high-quality substantive and technical support;

(b) The availability to INCB of reliable data and other information on the nature, patterns and trends in drug abuse and drug trafficking, including proposals for action;

(c) The emplacement in the majority of States with weak drug laws and/or weak capacity to enforce laws and infrastructure in line with all the international drug control conventions;

(d) Higher prosecution and asset forfeiture success rates and reduced court delays for serious drug-related crime casework;

(e) Expanded and improved databases on national drug control legislation;

(f) Strengthened collaboration among Governments in the legal field, including cooperation to suppress illicit drug trafficking by sea;

(g) Accessibility to Member States and the general public of a comprehensive electronic database containing the national drug-related laws, jurisprudence and practices of all drug-significant States;

(h) The prevention of diversion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances into illicit traffic.

Indicators of achievement

13.14 The indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The timely submission of high-quality reports and other documents to the Commission;

(b) The number of Governments submitting timely and comprehensive data to INCB;

(c) The number of Governments accepting the recommendations of INCB;

(d) A survey of national legislation and infrastructure measuring the extent to which Governments improved their capacity to take action against illicit drug trafficking;

(e) The number of shortcomings in national drug control systems identified and remedied;

(f) The number of diversions of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances into illicit traffic and the quantities involved;

(g) The number of Governments using the limited international special surveillance list of substances.

Subprogramme 3
Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse

Objective

13.15 The objective of the subprogramme is to enhance the capacity of Governments to formulate effective demand reduction policies and strategies against drug abuse.

Strategy

13.16 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division for Operations and Analysis of UNDCP. The strategy is based on the analysis and dissemination of information and best practices and development of techniques and methods aimed at reducing illicit demand for drugs, in particular among groups most at risk. Regional expert epidemiology networks will be established or improved in order to foster experience-sharing and developing an enhanced capacity to understand regional drug abuse problems. Action will also be taken to strengthen the effectiveness of Governments in preventing and reducing drug abuse, in accordance with the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction. Technical cooperation will be utilized to strengthen human and institutional capacities of Governments. In addition, indicators for measuring the drug problem will be developed with the goal of enhancing the

quality and comparability of drug abuse data made available to Governments.

Expected accomplishments

13.17 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) The emplacement of new or enhanced data collection systems in a fairly large number of countries;

(b) Implementation by Member States of more comprehensive demand reduction strategies, policies and programmes;

(c) Increased use of standardized methodologies and key indicators by Member States for the collection of data on drug abuse;

(d) Enhanced drug abuse treatment programmes designed on the basis of needs assessment and evaluation.

Indicators of achievement

13.18 The indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An increase in the number of Member States adopting new or enhanced demand reduction plans and strategies incorporating action by public health, social welfare and law enforcement authorities and civil society, in line with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

(b) An increased number of Member States using standardized methodologies for the collection of data on drug abuse on at least one of the key indicators;

(c) An increase in the number of Member States implementing treatment programmes designed on the basis of needs assessment and evaluation results.

Subprogramme 4
Supply reduction: elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking

Objectives

13.19 The objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen the capacity of Governments to measure the extent, causes and effects of illicit production and on the basis of that information to develop effective countermeasures, including alternative development interventions.

Strategy

13.20 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Division for Operations and Analysis of UNDCP. The above objective will be attained, *inter alia*, through the establishment of international standards of core indicators and harmonized survey methodologies for yield assessments and data compilation on the cultivation of opium poppy and coca bush and the production of opium and coca. As part of the strategy, globally changing patterns of drug abuse will be monitored, production and trafficking trends analysed and the relative positions of botanical and synthetic drugs assessed. New scientific and technical dimensions of drug abuse and production will be investigated and the results disseminated to Member States and the general public. Advocacy activities will be carried out in support of target countries and cooperation in the field of drug impurity characterization promoted at the local, regional and international levels in order to enable those countries to embark on profiling activities that enhance operational intelligence-gathering on trends in drug and precursor trafficking. In addition, technical assistance will be provided to target countries to facilitate the formulation of drug control components in national policies and alternative development programmes.

13.21 The capacity of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to provide policy guidance as regards the goal of reducing illicit drug supply will be enhanced through the production of high-quality annual reports on trafficking and global illicit drug trends. Biannual seizure reports will be prepared with the data made available by the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) and the Customs Cooperation Council (also known as the World Customs Organization). The efforts of Member States to give effect to the provisions of the 1988 Convention aimed at preventing financial systems from being used to launder illicit proceeds will be supported. Innovative approaches will be developed and tailored to local conditions in order to eliminate illicit cultivation of drugs and their trafficking. Guidelines and technical papers will be made available and training provided on the design, planning and implementation of alternative development and law enforcement programmes.

Assistance will be provided to certain countries to establish national crop-monitoring units that monitor areas under cultivation, assess yields and mount rapid assessments in new cultivation areas. Assistance will be provided to Governments, upon their request, in formulating drug control components of national policies and alternative development programmes.

Expected accomplishments

13.22 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) The increased availability to Member States, national and international organizations and other institutions of reliable and timely guidance, data, information and analyses relating to the supply reduction aspects of the illicit drug phenomenon, including alternative development, and of countermeasures and strategies for their application;

(b) Acceptance and integration into development plans and international strategies of innovative approaches and best practices advocated by UNDCP on law enforcement and alternative development;

(c) Progress made towards the adoption and implementation of effective measures against money-laundering, as set out in the Political Declaration annexed to General Assembly resolution S-20/2, and in resolution S-20/4 D.

Indicators of achievement

13.23 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The number of technical materials, such as manuals, brochures and data, disseminated to competent national authorities, international organizations and other institutions;

(b) The number of countries establishing monitoring mechanisms and participating in the international monitoring mechanism;

(c) The number of countries incorporating the strategies and recommendations of the General Assembly at its twentieth special session into national and international drug control policies;

(d) An increase in the number of Member States capable of designing and implementing more effective policies in order to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit cultivation of coca bush and opium poppy;

(e) The number of countries adopting effective measures to fight money-laundering, such as the establishment of legislative and administrative law enforcement structures, including financial investigation services.

Legislative mandates

Programme 13
International drug control

Conventions and conference declaration

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol

Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

Declaration and Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, adopted by the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, held from 17 to 26 June 1987

General Assembly resolutions

47/97	Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances
S-20/2	Political Declaration
S-20/3	Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction
S-20/4	Measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem
54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem (applies to subprogrammes 1 and 2)

Subprogramme 1
Coordination and promotion of international drug control

General Assembly resolution

54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem

Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions

2 (XXXIX)	Promoting projects and programmes that use involvement in sports as an effective measure to prevent drug abuse
5 (XXXIX)	Encouragement of each Member State to require the establishment by banks and other financial institutions of customer identification policies and to broaden anti-money-laundering measures, and of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to strengthen cooperation with the Financial Action Task Force

Subprogramme 2
International drug control monitoring and policy-making

General Assembly resolution

54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/38	Measures to prevent substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 from being diverted from international trade into illicit channels
1994/4	Encouraging States to detect the use of trade channels for illicit consignments at all stages of movement and promoting the use of advice and technical expertise provided by the Customs Cooperation Council and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme
1995/18	Promoting the use of memoranda of understanding to facilitate cooperation between customs authorities and other competent administrations and the international trading community, including commercial carriers

Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions

42/4	Guidelines for reporting by Governments on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action and on the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session
42/11	Guidelines for reporting on the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly

Subprogramme 4
Supply reduction: elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking

Economic and Social Council resolution

1993/36	Frequency of and arrangements for meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions

5 (XXXVIII)	Strategies for illicit supply reduction
12 (XXXVIII)	Scientific and technical cooperation in the control of drug abuse and illicit trafficking